

## Planning for Easter

# WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE COLOUR?

Task 1: Before you read on any further, jot down what your favourite colour is and if you have a reason for this explain why? Colours play a significant part in the Christian church year.

Purple to Christians represents PREPARATION. The preparation for Easter begins with Shrove Tuesday. Last week on Tuesday, you may have had pancakes! This is traditional for Christians as it is the day before Lent begins, this is known as SHROVE TUESDAY. The day before the beginning of Lent.

*So what does the term Lent mean? Have a read below.*

### What is Lent?

**Lent** is a special time in the Church's calendar that takes place each spring in the run up to **Easter**. It begins in either late February or early March with Ash Wednesday.

Lent lasts for 40 days and ends the day before Easter Sunday, on **Holy Saturday**.

It is a solemn time when Christians remember how Jesus spent 40 days and nights alone in the desert, being tempted by the Devil. Jesus used this time to prepare for His work by fasting (going without food) and praying to God. You can read about this in Matthew 4:1-11 and Luke 4:1-13.

### Did you know?

If you count the days from Ash Wednesday to Holy Saturday you will discover that this adds up to 46 days – 6 days too many! This is because the 6 Sundays are not included in the calculations. Lent is a serious time but Sundays are always a day of celebration in the Christian church and so they're not included in the 40 days of Lent.

### What do Christians do during Lent?

Christians spend the 40 days of Lent preparing for Easter Day. They set aside time to think about whether they are living in a way that makes God happy. They will ask for God's forgiveness for the times they mess up, and for his help to live in the way that he wishes.

Christians specially remember all that Jesus did for each of them when he died on the cross on the first Good Friday. They also remember how he beat **sin** (the things which hurt God and people) and death when he came back to life on Easter Sunday.

Many Christians during Lent will give up eating certain foods or other luxuries, to help them concentrate on God. This is also a reminder of the fact that Jesus did not eat for the 40 days that he was in the desert. Many Christians will also set aside whole days of fasting and praying.

*Task: Watch the animated movie of Jesus' 40 days and 40 nights in the desert:*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Xb8-mkSNSg>

Task: Now choose between 4 – 6 scenes to recreate and describe in a similar, pencil sketch style with an short explanation with each one (link to fractions from last term, what is the fraction here)?

Have a look at my quick start below:

